Unknown

From: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored) [governor@alaska.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 9:53 AM
To: Smith; Lynne M (GOV)
Subject: FW: [ED_REVIEW] ED Review (03/14/08)

From: Honeysett, Adam [mailto:Adam.Honeysett@ED.GOV]
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 5:34 AM
To: ED_REVIEW@LISTSERV.ED.GOV
Subject: [ED_REVIEW] ED Review (03/14/08)

ED REVIEW

March 14, 2008

...a bi-weekly update on U.S. Department of Education activities relevant to the Intergovernmental and Corporate community and other stakeholders

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MATH EDUCATION

Yesterday (March 13), the National Mathematics Advisory Panel released its final report. The panel, created by President Bush in April 2006, was charged with making recommendations to the President and the Secretary on the best use of scientifically based research to advance the teaching and learning of mathematics, with a specific focus on preparation for and success in algebra (grades PK-8). Why algebra? It is a "demonstrable gateway to later achievement," needed for higher math in high school. Also, completion of Algebra II correlates significantly with success in college and future earnings. Panelists, including mathematicians, cognitive psychologists, and educators, held 12 meetings across the country (receiving testimony from 200 individuals and 150 organizations), reviewed 16,000 studies, and scrutinized surveys from 743 algebra teachers. The result is 45 findings and recommendations on a range of items, including instructional practices, materials, assessments, and teacher professional development. Below are some highlights.

Core Principles of Math Instruction

- The areas to be studied from pre-kindergarten through eighth-grade should be streamlined, and a well-defined set of the most important topics should be emphasized in the early grades. Any approach that revisits topics year after year -- without brining them to closure -- should be avoided.
- Proficiency with whole numbers, fractions, and aspects of geometry and measurement are the foundations for algebra. Of these, knowledge of fractions is the most important skill not developed among American students.
- Conceptual understanding, computational and procedural fluency, and problem-solving skills are equally important and mutually reinforce each other.

- Students should develop immediate recall of arithmetic facts to free the "working memory" for solving more complex problems.
- More students should be prepared for and offered an "authentic" algebra course in the eighth-grade. The major topics of school algebra include symbols and expressions, linear equations, quadratic equations, functions, polynomials, and combinatorics and finite probability.

Effective Instruction Matters

- Teachers' regular use of formative assessments can improve student learning.
- The belief that children of particular ages cannot learn certain content because they are "too young" or "not ready" has consistently been shown to be false.
- Explicit instruction for students who struggle is effective in increasing learning.
- Gifted students should be allowed to accelerate their learning.
- Publishers should produce shorter, more focused, and more mathematically accurate textbooks. The excessive length of some U.S. textbooks is not necessary for high achievement.

Other Findings

- Much of the public's "resignation" about math education is based on the erroneous idea that success comes from inherent talent or ability, not effort. A focus on the importance of effort in learning will improve outcomes. If students believe that their efforts to learn make them "smarter," they show greater persistence in learning.
- Teachers' math knowledge is important for students' achievement. The preparation of elementary and middle school educators should be strengthened. Also, the use of teachers who have specialized in elementary math could be an alternative to increasing all elementary teachers' content knowledge by focusing the need for expertise on a fewer teachers.
- The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) and state assessments in math should be improved in quality and should emphasize the most critical knowledge and skills leading to algebra.

The Department will convene a national summit based on the recommendations of the panel. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO http://www.ed.gov/mathpanel/.

NCLB UPDATE

Continuing her national tour, Secretary Spellings visited three more states to discuss critical issues in K-12 education: North Carolina (3/5), West Virginia (3/7), and New York (3/10). Moreover, maximizing the agency's outreach, Deputy Secretary Ray Simon visited four states: Arkansas (3/10), Colorado (3/12), North Dakota (3/13), and New Mexico (3/14). At each location, they presented state-specific *No Child Left Behind* information from a new tool recently unveiled by the Department (see http://www.ed.gov/nclb/accountability/results/progress/). These two-page "dashboards" provide statistics on state and NAEP test scores, graduation rates, schools making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), highly qualified teachers, parents taking advantage of choice and supplemental educational service options, state participation in flexibility options, and more. The simple format, with charts and graphs, reveals bright spots as well as concerns. Next week, using feedback from these visits, the Secretary will announce a series of assessment and accountability actions.

On March 6, the Secretary delivered poignant remarks at the Reading First State Directors Conference. "Just last week, we learned that, for the first time, more than one out of every 100 Americans is incarcerated," she said. "Reducing these numbers starts early. It starts with giving our young people the knowledge and skills to succeed in school and in the workforce. I don't need to tell you that reading opens the door to history, science, literature, geography, and more. Reading opens the door to opportunity. So, instead of cutting funding for programs that are proven to work, let's make them more available!" In Fiscal Year 2008, Congress cut funding for Reading First by 61%. President Bush has proposed restoring funding to $1 billion. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO http://www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2008/03/03062008.html.

In a letter to Chief State School Officers (http://www.ed.gov/admins/lead/account/saapr5.pdf), Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education Kerri Briggs announced the Department's revised peer review process for science assessments. Responding to concerns that the process is not transparent and does not furnish timely feedback, she is offering states the opportunity to have face-to-face conversations with peers and receive technical assistance from these experts. Also, in keeping with changes made last fall, states may select one of the peers from the list of approved experts for the state's review. This is the first year science assessments are required to be administered once each in grades 3-5, 6-9, and 10-12. The assessments are not included in determinations of AYP.

AMERICAN STARS

The Department is still accepting nominations for its 2008 American Stars of Teaching awards, which recognize educators who are boosting student achievement -- using innovative instructional strategies -- and making a difference in the lives of their students. Anyone (students, parents, colleagues, administrators, etc.) can nominate an American Star. After the Department receives a nomination, a verification form is sent to the teacher's principal. One teacher will be recognized from each state and the District of Columbia. The deadline for nominations is March 31. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO https://www.t2tweb.us/AmStar/About.asp.

Also: Applications for Teaching Ambassador Fellowship positions at the Department are due April 7. These positions offer highly motivated and innovative public school teachers the opportunity to contribute their knowledge and experience to the national dialogue on education. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO http://www.ed.gov/programs/teacherfellowship/.

TRANSFORMING HIGHER EDUCATION

Today (March 14), Secretary Spellings testified before the House Committee on Education and Labor on the availability of federal student loans. "Recent volatility in credit markets has raised some concern about the continued availability of student loans," she said. "I want to reassure you that federal student aid -- grants, loans through both the Direct Loan and Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) programs, and work-study -- will continue to be available to students and their families." FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO http://www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2008/03/03142008.html.

Other higher education-related resources:

- At the hearing, the Secretary released a new brochure, "Federal Aid

First" (http://www.ed.gov/federalaidfirst/), which explains why students looking to borrow money for postsecondary education should apply for loans from the federal government first, before seeking assistance from private lenders.

- The Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE) Program Guide (http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/opeprogramguide.html) organizes OPE's programs by primary purpose ("Helping All Americans Reach Postsecondary Education," "Improving Teaching at All Levels," "Supporting Undergraduate Students," etc.) and provides a summary of the program with a link to the main program page.
- "Ten Years After College" (http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2008155) examines college graduates' work experiences in 1994, 1997, and 2003, describing their status, employment stability and intensity, occupations and industries, salaries and benefits, and perceptions about their jobs.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Searching for dollars? Several grant competitions are in progress. For example, the Early Reading First Program supports local efforts to enhance the oral language, cognitive, and early reading skills of preschool-age children, particularly those from low-income families, through strategies, materials, and professional development. The competition is open to high-need school districts (http://www.ed.gov/programs/earlyreading/eligibility.html) and organizations (public or private) within those districts. The deadline for pre-applications is April 7, while the deadline for applications is June 10. Also, the School Leadership Grant Program assists in the development, enhancement, or expansion of innovative programs to recruit, train, and mentor principals and assistant principals for high-need schools. The competition is open to high-need districts and institutions of higher education in partnership with districts. A "notice of intent" to apply is due April 2, while the deadline for applications is May 2. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO http://www.ed.gov/GrantApps/.

Also: April 14 and 15, the Department is sponsoring four, one-hour technical assistance conference calls to assist states in applying for funding under the College Access Challenge Grant (http://www.ed.gov/programs/cacg/). These calls will focus on program requirements and the application process. To register for a conference call (at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. ET, each day), contact Karmon Simms-Coates at mailto:Karmon.Simms-Coates@ed.gov.

INTEL SCIENCE AWARDS

On March 13, Secretary Spellings joined Intel Chairman Craig Barrett to honor Intel Science Talent Search (STS) finalists. STS is America's oldest (1942) and most prestigious high school science competition. (Since 1998, STS has been sponsored by Intel.) More than 1,600 students entered the contest this year; the 40 finalists hailed from 19 states and 35 high schools. The top prize went to Shivani Sud of Durham, North Carolina, who developed a model that analyzed the specific "molecular signatures" of tumors from patients with Stage II colon cancer. She then used this information to identify those at higher risk for tumor recurrence and propose potentially effective drugs for treatment. She joins some esteemed alumni: six Nobel Laureates, three National Medal of Science winners, 10 MacArthur Foundation Fellows, and two Field Medalists. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO http://www.intel.com/education/sts/.

QUOTE TO NOTE

"This [National Mathematics Advisory Panel] report represents the first comprehensive analysis of math education to be based on sound science. The panel's findings and recommendations make very clear what must be done to help our children succeed in math. We must teach number and math concepts early, we must help students believe they can improve their math skills, and we must ensure they fully comprehend algebra concepts by the time they graduate from high school. The panel's extensive work will benefit generations of American students."

-- Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings (3/13/08)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Over the next two weeks, the Department will be exhibiting at the National Catholic Educational Association's Annual Convention in Indianapolis (March 25-28), the National Science Teachers Association's National Conference on Science Education (theme: Bridge to the Future) in Boston (March 27-30), and the National School Boards Association's Annual Conference in Orlando (March 29-April 1). If you are attending any of these events, please stop by the Department's booth.

Please feel free to contact the Office of Communications and Outreach with any questions:
Director, Intergovernmental Affairs -- Rogers Johnson, (202) 401-0026, mailto:Rogers.Johnson@ed.gov
Deputy Director -- Keith Brancato, (202) 401-6178, mailto:Keith.Brancato@ed.gov
Program Analyst -- Adam Honeysett, (202) 401-3003, mailto:Adam.Honeysett@ed.gov
To be added or removed from distribution, or submit comments (we welcome your feedback!), contact Adam Honeysett. Or, visit http://www.ed.gov/news/newsletters/edreview/.

Unknown

From: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored) [governor@alaska.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 8:14 AM
To: Leighow; Sharon W (GOV)
Cc: Mason; Janice L (GOV)
Subject: FW: Congratulations on you new baby (in May)!!!

From: Moreland, Ken [mailto:MorelandK@allkids.org]
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 5:12 AM
To: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)
Subject: Congratulations on you new baby (in May)!!!

Would you consider a 2020 run for the presidency? You youngest would be 12 and old enough to handle the rigors.

Ken Moreland
Director, PPS Financial Services
727-767-4974
Int Mail # 6941

Unknown

From: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored) [governor@alaska.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 10:03 AM
To: SOA All employees
Subject: Putting Alaska First-March 2008

If this newsletter does not display correctly, you can view it online here >>>

Governor Sarah Palin announced she and her husband are expecting their fifth child.

"Todd and I are five times blessed and couldn't be happier," Governor Palin said. "We look forward to welcoming our new addition in May."

Space

READ 2008 Poster

VISIT NEA ONLINE
Governor Sarah Palin goes to the dogs — to encourage young people to read.

Space

President's Challenge

Got 30 minutes? Get fit this spring – and help Alaska win national recognition.

Join Governor Palin in the National President's Challenge, a six-week competition sponsored by the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports. Sign up for the Challenge, which runs from March 20 through May 15, at www.presidentschallenge.org.

What's the prize? Better health – physical activity makes you feel and look better. And you'll help shine the spotlight on Alaska as governors with the highest percentage of participating residents will be recognized for supporting healthy lifestyles.

"Participating in this challenge is free and easy," Governor Palin said. "It's only 30 minutes of activity a day. You can walk, run, ski, or even bicycle your way to the goal. About 100 different activities count."

The rules of the challenge are simple:
- The challenge starts March 20, but sign up through April 3.
- Adults must be active for at least 30 minutes during five days of each of the six weeks in the challenge, and report their activity on www.presidentschallenge.org
- Children 6 through 17 need to complete 60 minutes of activity five days a week.
- Sign up as an individual or with a group.

Recent state surveys showed that more than 60 percent of Alaska adults are overweight or obese and more than 27 percent of high school students are overweight or at risk of becoming overweight – costing upwards of $200 million in direct medical costs, not including indirect costs such as lost productivity at work.

Susan Butcher Day

Governor Sarah Palin honored the la
Susan Butcher during a ceremonial b
prior to the start of the Iditarod *Trail S*
in Anchorage. House Bill 37, sponso
Representative David Guttenberg, es
first Saturday of March as Susan But

"No one exemplifies the spirit of Idita
Susan Butcher," Governor Palin said
great role model for so many Alaskar
I greatly admire her perseverance, de
competitiveness."

Butcher, a four-time winner of the Idi
Dog Race, died in 2006. She will be h
year on the first Saturday of March, t
opening day of the race that she dom
five-year stretch from 1986 to 1990.

Governor Palin was joined at the Ma
by Butcher's husband Dave Monson
Tekla and Chisana.

New Energy Coordinator

Governor Sarah Palin has named St
executive director of Alaska Energy A
executive officer of Golden Valley El

VIEW PHOTO

CLICK TO LISTEN
Governor Palin has named Steven Haagenson to serve as energy coordinator and executive director of Alaska Energy Authority.

VISIT AEA ONLINE
Alaska Energy Authority at www.akenergyauthority.org

Federal Rebates

IRS Returns Needed for Federal Rebates

Starting in May, 2008, the United States Treasury will begin sending out economic stimulus payments (rebates) of $300-$600 to eligible persons across the U.S. For some parents, there is an additional payment of $300 for each eligible child under 17.

However, people must file an income tax return in order to receive the payment.

Some Alaska citizens do not have a federal tax filing requirement, but are nonetheless eligible for the payment. These citizens will need to file a 2007 federal income tax return to become eligible.

Those who don't normally need to file can look to Free File – Economic Stimulus Payment, available at IRS.gov, to make filing an easy process. Several Free File software providers are making their products available for the simplified filing of a tax return.

In most cases, those who are required to file a federal tax return will not have to do anything extra; just file a 2007 federal tax return as usual.

Low to moderate income taxpayers, elderly taxpayers and veterans can receive free tax assistance.

For more about eligibility requirements, visit the Economic Stimulus Payment Information Center for information. Generally, people must have a valid Social Security number, have at least $3,000 in qualified income, and not be a dependent or eligible to be a dependent on someone else's return in order to qualify.

Online Drivers Test

A driver's practice test is now available online for Alaska's potential road warriors.

The test is accessible by visiting www.dot.alaska.gov/highwaysafety and clicking "Online Driver Test" on the right side of the page.

The practice exam consists of 15 questions, similar to what driver's license applicants can expect when taking the actual exams at DMV locations.

"Passing the practice test in no way ensures participants will pass the actual test necessary to obtain an Alaska driver's license," said Cindy Cashen, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Highway Safety Office Administrator. "It's our intention to have the site prepare applicants for the actual exam and become safe and knowledgeable, licensed drivers."

The test is a joint effort by the Alaska DOT&PF, the Alaska Division of Motor Vehicles, the Alaska Highway Safety Office and the Alaska Injury Prevention Center.

Above & Beyond Citizen Honors

North Pole resident represents Alaska

Tom Burgess

Tom Burgess

The Congressional Medal of Honor Society has announced the names of 51 finalists for its inaugural Above & Beyond Citizen Honors – one for each of the 50 states and Washington, D.C.

Alaska - Yukon Sign Accord

Governor Sarah Palin and Yukon Territory Premier Dennis Fentie recently renewed the 2003 Alaska-Yukon Intergovernmental Accord.

"This accord provides a framework for the governments of Alaska and Yukon to continue working cooperatively on tourism, transportation, and trade and commerce initiatives," Governor Palin said. "We have also included climate change, wildlife management, economic development and infrastructure in the accord as additional key areas of opportunity."

Yukon and Alaska have maintained and renewed a joint intergovernmental accord for well over a decade, and successes arising from the accord include joint Shakwak research projects, the Chisana caribou recovery project and joint highway enforcement initiatives.

"Through the accord, we are continuing our work to build strong, viable communities and a solid trade relationship, as we are poised to enter an unprecedented period of responsible resource development in the north on both sides of the border," Premier Fentie said.

VIEW PHOTO

VISIT YUKON ONLINE
Premier Dennis Fentie at www.gov.yk.ca/

Fentie was accompanied by Economic Development Minister Jim Kenyon during the Feb. 29 Anchorage trip. Other topics of discussion during the meeting included the Alaska Gasline Inducement Act, the Alaska Highway Gas Pipeline, climate change impacts on infrastructure and the U.S. Homeland Security Rule Interpretation for Alaskan Cruise Ships.

Fentie and Palin last met in June 2007 in Whitehorse, where they discussed a variety of topics, including economic development, the environment and the accord renewal.

Ten Questions

John Katz, Director
Washington D.C. Office of the Governor

Q: Will you tell us about yourself?
After graduating from law school, I worked for Congressman Howard Pollock and then for Senator Ted Stevens before moving to Alaska in 1971. In 1972, I was appointed counsel to the Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission for Alaska, which was established by the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

I have worked for the State of Alaska in various capacities for 29 years. In early 1979, Governor Hammond appointed me as his Special Counsel to represent Alaska's interest during Congressional consideration of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, which was enacted in December, 1980. The Governor later asked me to serve as Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources, where I remained until January, 1983.

Since then, I have served six Governors as Director of State-Federal Relations and Special Counsel to the Governor in Washington, DC. In 1994, I received an honorary degree from the University of Alaska, Anchorage and have been commended twice by the Alaska Legislature.

I appreciate the privilege of representing State interests in D.C. and of working on a wide variety of interesting and challenging issues. I also enjoy the opportunity to work with capable and dedicated people within the State administration and in the many Alaska groups and organizations that do business in D.C.

Q: What do you miss most about Alaska?
I am often homesick and say that D.C. is habitable as long as I never think of it as home. What I miss most is the opportunity to interact in person with my friends and colleagues in Alaska and the ability to experience quiet and solitude without traveling many miles to do so.

Q: When was Alaska's D.C. office created?
Alaska's office originally was established by Governor Bill Egan in the early 1970s. The responsibilities of the office have changed over time in relation to State interests and the wishes of the incumbent Governor.

Currently, the principal functions of the office are to identify and monitor issues which arise in

Tom Burgess of North Pole is Alaska's nominee, for going above and beyond with his courageous rescue of tourists on a burning bus. While working on the Parks Highway as a truck driver, Burgess came upon a terrible accident between an Alaskan tour bus and a small pick-up truck. The first person on the scene, Burgess acted quickly and, disregarding his own safety, rescued many of the 25 trapped people. Burgess' brave actions that day resulted in numerous lives being saved.

Three of the 51 finalists will be chosen as 2008 Above & Beyond Citizen Honorees and these remarkable citizens will be honored and celebrated during a ceremony to be held March 25, Medal of Honor Day, in Washington, D.C.

"Above & Beyond" is the first time all 107 living Medal of Honor recipients have banded together to create a national platform to promote and honor "Service before Self."

For more information, visit www.aboveandbeyond365.com and www.cmohs.org.

The News in Photos

President Bush addresses the National Governors Association in the State Dining Room of the White House in Washington, Monday, Feb. 25, 2008. From left are: American Samoa Governor Togiola T.A. Tulafono; Governor Palin; Alabama Governor Bob Riley; Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty; Health and Human Services Secretary Mike Leavitt. (AP Photo/Charles Dharapak)

Mike Webber, a 47-year-old Native Alaskan artist and fisherman, stands by the "shame pole" he carved in memory of the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill, Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2008, following a news conference at the National Press Club in Washington, one day before a class-action lawsuit, Exxon v. Baker, is argued in the Supreme Court. At right is Governor Palin. (AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

Congress and federal agencies in D.C., analyze and help formulate State policy on these issues, and advocate policy in appropriate federal forums.

Q: What's unique about the D.C. office?
Some 38 states and territories have established offices in D.C. The functions of these offices vary widely, depending upon gubernatorial mandates, issues and budgets.

The uniqueness of this office results from the issues we work on. Alaska is still a young state with a complex and evolving relationship to the federal government, a large federal land mass, a major military presence, and numerous federal programs designed to benefit Alaska Natives and other citizens.

Hence, we deal with a number of issues that other states resolved decades ago or that are unique to us for reasons of geography or resource potential. Two good examples are Alaska's efforts to commercialize North Slope natural gas and the possible designation of polar bears under the Endangered Species Act.

Q: What are some things you tell Alaskans visiting D.C.?
Every month, we meet with representatives of local governments, interest groups and individual Alaskans. Usually, they come here for a specific purpose, such as appropriations requests, and we discuss the merits of these proposals and how they might be received by Congress or the federal agencies.

Often, we will take the opportunity to discuss policies of the Palin administration that might be of interest. And, some folks want to know how to get to the closest shopping malls and museums.

Q: What are some of the big issues that you are dealing with?
The D.C. office works on the full spectrum of federal issues with which the State is concerned. At any given time, between 100 and 120 issues are active. About 60 percent of this workload involves legislation in Congress, and the remainder concerns matters pending before federal agencies and administrative tribunals.

The office spends much of its time on Alaska-specific natural resource and environmental matters. The remainder, among other issues, is devoted to health, jobs and families, education, transportation, appropriations and international affairs.

Q: How do you work with Alaska's Congressional delegation?
The Governor's D.C. office is the primary contact with the Congressional delegation. This entails meetings, phone calls and emails virtually every day with the delegation or staff.

Often, we explain administration positions on federal issues and seek consensus with the Congressional delegation. We frequently work together in developing strategy and advocating Alaska's interests. The office also responds to numerous requests for factual information on particular issues.

Q: Earmarks have been in the news lately, will you explain how earmarks work?
The term "earmark" means different things to different people. We use this term to connote a sum of money for a specific project or program that is added to an appropriations bill by a member of Congress, often to benefit that member's constituents.

This year, President Bush and the Congressional leadership have said that the total dollar amount and number of earmarks must be reduced significantly. Recognizing the Constitutional authority of Congress to formulate the federal budget, Governor Palin has responded to this direction by reducing the total number of State earmark requests from 54 last year to 31 and from $550 million to less than $200 million.

Q: What questions do you get the most about Alaska?
This office is oriented toward public policy. So, most of the questions we get relate to policy issues pending in Congress or the various federal agencies.

At the moment, we are receiving a lot of inquires concerning energy issues, such as ANWR, the gas pipeline, and clean energy; the possible listing of polar bears under the ESA; climate change; appropriations; and fish and wildlife concerns. We also receive numerous questions from people in the lower 48 states about the Permanent Fund, what it is like to live in Alaska, and summer travel.

Q: What are the most common impressions of Alaska?
For many Americans, Alaska is a mysterious and intriguing place. They know that we possess vast quantities of oil, gas, hardrock minerals and other natural resources that we are ready and willing to provide to the rest of the country. These same people also perceive Alaska as a state with vast wilderness and bountiful fish and wildlife that should be protected.

The polls I've seen show that a majority of Americans trust us to strike the right balance between responsible development and environmental protection. In addition, they want to know more about our State and what our people think and do.

WATCH ONLINE VIDEO

The Alaska Departments of Natural Resources (DNR) and Revenue (DOR) received more than 300 public comments on the TransCanada Alaska Company LLC application under the Alaska Gasline Inducement Act during the 60-day public comment period that began on Jan. 5.

More than 100 of the comments arrived within the

Governor Palin presented information about Alaska's gas pipeline to the Hoover Institution Board, which is the Stanford University-based public policy research center, on Feb. 26, 2008, in Washington, D.C. Photo credit to Goodman/Van Riper Photography.

Governor Palin reads to students in the Gastineau School Head Start class in mid-February.

Space

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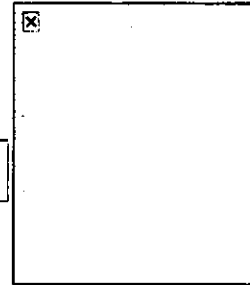
two-days prior to the Thursday, March 6 deadline. DNR staff are assembling, tabulating and formatting the electronic comments, and plan to make the comments available to the public as quickly as possible, and no later than March 14.

VISIT AGIA ONLINE
www.gov.state.ak.us/agia

The comments will be made available online at the state's AGIA website. Electronic copies will also be available on request. For more information contact DNR at 907-269-8400.

Open Your Browser

Women's History Month
Nationwide, March is Women's History Month. Alaska has its own rich heritage of women who made a difference, including Elizabeth Peratrovich who demanded equal treatment for all Alaska citizens, Susan Butcher whose four victories in the Iditarod made her a symbol of self-reliance (see related article in this newsletter), and Hilary Lindh who is a five-time U.S. National Champion and the 1992 Olympic silver medalist in downhill skiing.

Visit the National Women's History Project Online

VISIT WOMEN IN HISTORY PAGES ONLINE

- Governor Palin's Proclamation
- Women in Alaska
- Famous Alaskans
- Women's History Month Test Your Knowledge
- Women in Alaska's History
- National Women's History Project

Until next time,

Governor Sarah Palin

State of Alaska Governor Webmaster Office Locations Email Governor

Unknown

From: <gov.sarah@yahoo.com> [gov.sarah@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 9:17 AM
To: Mike Tibbles; Russ Kelly; Sharon Leighow; John Katz
Cc: Beth Leschper; Karen Rehfeld; Larry Persily
Subject: Re: Channel 2 - budget showdown?

Good editorial. And ive asked Sharon to distribute oped to all other publications. Thank you!

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "John Katz" <jwkatz@ALASKADC.org>

Date: Fri, 14 Mar 2008 09:27:07

To:"Mike Tibbles" <mike.tibbles@alaska.gov>,"Russ Kelly" <russ.kelly@alaska.gov>,"Sharon Leighow" <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>,<gov.sarah@yahoo.com>

Cc:"Beth Leschper" <beth.leschper@alaska.gov>,"Karen Rehfeld" <karen.rehfeld@alaska.gov>,"Larry Persily" <lpersily@ALASKADC.org>

Subject: Re: Channel 2 - budget showdown?

I noticed that there's a short but very good = editorial in today's ADN about our earmark policy.

I believe that Matt decided not to publish = my Op-Ed piece on the grounds that the subject matter has = received enough coverage by them. But, I'd like to think that = he felt a little bit guilty and then decided to write his own editorial, = which is probably a better result anyway.

Perhaps, another newspaper which has not = devoted as much coverage to earmarks would be willing to publish = the Op-Ed. I think it's a reasonable summary of the = current situation in DC and does contain some new information on transporta= tion earmarks, which precipitated the problem to begin with. =

Earmarks

Pork with a sense of proportion

Sen. Ted Stevens complains = that Gov. Palin's anti-earmark rhetoric is hurting Alaska's cause in = Congress. It's harder for him to get federal funding for Alaska projects, = he

says, when critics can say your own state doesn't like earmarks.

May= be so. But the Palin administration hasn't said all earmarks are evil. It = has merely scaled back the state's list of funding requests, using some = sensible criteria, like whether the project involves any federal responsibi= lity and has strong public support.

The governor recognizes = that legitimate federal funding requests may come from other sources, like = local governments and the university.

In short, when it comes to = federal pork, Gov. Palin is talking about reduced portions, not going = without. That's the reality these days, thanks to past earmarking = excesses. Cutting the list of earmark requests and using tighter criteria = to screen them should make it easier to defend the Alaska projects that do = get federal funding.

Please note that my email address has = changed. My new email address = is <mailto:jwkatz@alaskadc.org> jwkatz@alaskadc.org. = Thank you .

>>> On = 3/13/2008 at 6:43 PM, in message <1465118257-1205448091-cardhu_decombobu= lator_blackberry.rim.net-1501837569-@bxe014.bisx.prod.on.blackberry>, = <gov.sarah@yahoo.com> wrote:

Any committment from adn to = run Katz op-ed on earmarks?

Sent from my BlackBerry=AE device from = Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com=

Date: Wed, 12 Mar 2008 19:55:59

To:"Sharon Leighow" <sharon.= leighow@alaska.gov>,"Russ Kelly" <russ.kelly@alaska.gov>,"Mike = Tibbles" <mike.tibbles@alaska.gov>

Cc:"Karen Rehfeld" <karen.re= hfeld@alaska.gov>

Subject: Re: Channel 2 - budget showdown?

"I believe it's inappropriate to stuff a supplemental budget with a = package of last year's vetoed capital projects, especially when the = adminstration has not even seen the growing list of legislator's projects = they've apparently now added to the supplemental budget. Supplemental = budgets traditionally, and appropriately, fund end-of-year shortfalls due = to unexpected costs, usually in operations of public services provided by = government. The capital budget should be developed in a comprehensive = manner."

Sent from my BlackBerry=AE device from Cellular One

----= -Original Message-----

From: "Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)" <sharon.leigho= w@alaska.gov>

Date: Wed, 12 Mar 2008 11:19:30

To:"Kelly, = Russell T (GOV)" <russ.kelly@alaska.gov>, gov.sarah@yahoo.com,"Tibble= s, Michael A (GOV)" <mike.tibbles@alaska.gov>

Subject: Channel 2 = - budget showdown?

Rep. Meyer told Bill McAllister that the = budget has / will be moved out with the capital projects IN. BM = wants comment from the administration. Please advise.

=

Sharon Leighow

Deputy Press Secretary

Deputy Communications = Director

(907) 269-7450 Anchorage

(907) 465-4031 Juneau =

(907) 240-7943 cell

Unknown

From: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored) [governor@alaska.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 8:55 AM
To: Leighow; Sharon W (GOV)
Cc: Mason; Janice L (GOV)
Subject: FW: Other

-----Original Message-----

From: WebMail@gov.state.ak.us [mailto:WebMail@gov.state.ak.us]

Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 12:53 AM

To: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)

Subject: Other

Web mail from: Mr. Joaquin Alvarenga

address: 1330 Autumn Ln Anchorage AK 99504

MESSAGE:

What woould be your agenda as vice-president with John McCain?

I am just very curious about.

I don't mean what Alaskans want, they'll never make it

600,000 people against 300,000,000 people, It will never happen

Opening ANWAR for example is treason if it is a pentagon reserve for jet fuel in case USA is in a war and foreign sources are sabotage; USA needs fuel to fight a war. You need to ask the pentagon how important to them is ANWAR as reserve.

I am curious what does Sarah Palin wants for Alaska, I mean as Matsu-Valley resident, as ex major dreaming to do things for Wasilla and then as Governor finding out is not that easy and then many goals impossible. Then knowing that many Alaska dreams will never be realized not even if you became president of USA because congress and senate have to approve your ideas.

I just trust in you as non corrupted that had a bad experience that in reality the political party is loaded with greedy individuals that don't care about "we the people"; many in the CIA, FBI, NSA or DOD will not even care to die or go to jail for their greedy agendas. They think that "who dies with the most toys wins", or "is better to have a million than never had it" despites consequences after but they can say they had a million dollars and so on. Problem is that such phylosophy on the world of spies and mafias spread

all over many countries and so Russian or Mexican or Chinesse or Muslims counterparts spies or mafia members will think and act similarly.

Alaska is not so corrupted and risky as other states on those terms, and are you sure you want to go to DC and deal with those kind of people? I mean billionaire criminals in a sense with their servants willing to die for their crumbs; or dictators from other countries with their slaves infiltrated or living in USA (Castro, Natzis, Chavez, Vatican mafia, etc)

You have my vote if you say yes, but is ugly there...I mean they can literally kill you (or try a least) if you get in their way with your clean politics ideals. 1000 security guards can not stop a snipper bullet to your head or to one of your children or husband for example. A wrong decision can cost you more than a political career in DC; that is why I hate DC.

You must be willing to die when aiming for the white house and kill innocent people used by your enemies in a cross fire; or the millions counting on you will not have a defender leader. I mean you got to live to fight another day and you have to be trickier than your enemies (meaning USA enemies when you hold the white house office); so help you Jesus.

Alberto

asjaa33@uaa.alaska.edu

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 8:04 AM
To: Katz; John W (GOV); Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Kelly; Russell T (GOV); Leighow; Sharon W (GOV)
Cc: Leschper; Beth (GOV); Rehfeld; Karen J (GOV); Persily; Larry A (GOV)
Subject: Re: Channel 2 - budget showdown?

Good editorial. And ive asked Sharon to distribute oped to all other publications. Thank you!

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "John Katz" <jwkatz@ALASKADC.org>

Date: Fri, 14 Mar 2008 09:27:07

To:"Mike Tibbles" <mike.tibbles@alaska.gov>,"Russ Kelly" <russ.kelly@alaska.gov>,"Sharon Leighow" <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>,<gov.sarah@yahoo.com>

Cc:"Beth Leschper" <beth.leschper@alaska.gov>,"Karen Rehfeld" <karen.rehfeld@alaska.gov>,"Larry Persily" <lpersily@ALASKADC.org>

Subject: Re: Channel 2 - budget showdown?

I noticed that there's a short but very good = editorial in today's ADN about our earmark policy.

I believe that Matt decided not to publish = my Op-Ed piece on the grounds that the subject matter has = received enough coverage by them. But, I'd like to think that = he felt a little bit guilty and then decided to write his own editorial, = which is probably a better result anyway.

Perhaps, another newspaper which has not = devoted as much coverage to earmarks would be willing to publish = the Op-Ed. I think it's a reasonable summary of the = current situation in DC and does contain some new information on transporta= tion earmarks, which precipitated the problem to begin with. =

Earmarks

Pork with a sense of proportion

Sen. Ted Stevens complains = that Gov. Palin's anti-earmark rhetoric is hurting Alaska's

cause in = Congress. It's harder for him to get federal funding for Alaska projects, = he says, when critics can say your own state doesn't like earmarks.

May= be so. But the Palin administration hasn't said all earmarks are evil. It = has merely scaled back the state's list of funding requests, using some = sensible criteria, like whether the project involves any federal responsibi= lity and has strong public support.

The governor recognizes = that legitimate federal funding requests may come from other sources, like = local governments and the university.

In short, when it comes to = federal pork, Gov. Palin is talking about reduced portions, not going = without. That's the reality these days, thanks to past earmarking = excesses. Cutting the list of earmark requests and using tighter criteria = to screen them should make it easier to defend the Alaska projects that do = get federal funding.

Please note that my email address has = changed. My new email address = is <mailto:jwkatz@alaskadc.org> jwkatz@alaskadc.org. = Thank you .

>>> On = 3/13/2008 at 6:43 PM, in message <1465118257-1205448091-cardhu_decombobu= lator_blackberry.rim.net-1501837569-@bxe014.bisx.prod.on.blackberry>, = <gov.sarah@yahoo.com> wrote:

Any committment from adn to = run Katz op-ed on earmarks?

Sent from my BlackBerry=AE device from = Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com=

Date: Wed, 12 Mar 2008 19:55:59

To:"Sharon Leighow" <sharon.= leighow@alaska.gov>,"Russ Kelly" <russ.kelly@alaska.gov>,"Mike = Tibbles" <mike.tibbles@alaska.gov>

Cc:"Karen Rehfeld" <karen.re= hfeld@alaska.gov>

Subject: Re: Channel 2 - budget showdown?

"I believe it's inappropriate to stuff a supplemental budget with a = package of last year's vetoed capital projects, especially when the = adminstration has not even seen the growing list of legislator's projects = they've apparently now added to the supplemental budget. Supplemental = budgets traditionally, and appropriately, fund end-of-year shortfalls due = to unexpected costs, usually in operations of public services provided by = government. The capital budget should be developed in a comprehensive = manner."

Sent from my BlackBerry=AE device from Cellular One

----= -Original Message-----

From: "Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)" <sharon.leigho= w@alaska.gov>

Date: Wed, 12 Mar 2008 11:19:30

To:"Kelly, = Russell T (GOV)" <russ.kelly@alaska.gov>, gov.sarah@yahoo.com,"Tibble= s, Michael A (GOV)" <mike.tibbles@alaska.gov>

Subject: Channel 2 = - budget showdown?

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=

Sharon Leighow

Deputy Press Secretary

Deputy Communications = Director

(907) 269-7450 Anchorage

(907) 465-4031 Juneau =

(907) 240-7943 cell

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 7:59 AM
To: Katz; John W (GOV); Persily; Larry A (GOV); Adrian Herrera
Cc: Leschper; Beth (GOV); Nizich; Michael A (GOV); Mason; Janice L (GOV); Leighow; Sharon W (GOV)
Subject: Re: G GORDON LIDDY

Pls let them know I do intend to participate and look forward to this. Traveling to the slope, etc works for me. Thanks

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "John Katz" <jwkatz@ALASKADC.org>

Date: Fri, 14 Mar 2008 10:41:28

To:"Larry Persily" <lpersily@ALASKADC.org>,"Adrian Herrera" <aherrera@anwr.org>

Cc:"Beth Leschper" <beth.leschper@alaska.gov>,"Mike Nizich" <Mike.Nizich@alaska.gov>,"Janice Mason" <janice_mason@gov.state.ak.us>,"Sharon Leighow" <sharon_leighow@gov.state.ak.us>

Subject: Re: G GORDON LIDDY

Thanks for advising us of your plans for Mr. = Liddy and the expanded coverage of Alaska energy issues that might ensue = from his trip.

By copy of this email, I'm advising the = Governor's scheduling and press people of your tentative plans. As = things progress, I would suggest that you add Janice Mason, the Governor's = scheduler, to your list.

My guess is that Commissioner Irwin and his = people would be glad to provide a factual briefing for Mr. Liddy and his = staff.

Please note that my email address has = changed. My new email address = is <mailto:jwkatz@alaskadc.org> jwkatz@alaskadc.org. = Thank you .

>= >> On 3/14/2008 at 10:30 AM, in message <7E67A6DE-9452-4EAB-9FE2-1= 145038E69D0 @anwr.org>, Adrian Herrera <aherrera@anwr.org> = wrote:

Hi John and Larry,

Well after a long time waiting I have finally gotten the go ahead = yesterday from Radio America to announce the Gordon Liddy trip to Alaska. = We have decided on July 11th arrival to July 20th. 7 full days = on the ground with 5 full broadcast days. Liddy will fly up to = Katovik on July 12 from Anchorage and visit Prudhoe, Barrow, and Red Dog = for a day each before heading back to Anchorage on the 16th. We will = broadcast live from Anchorage from 6am -10am on Wednesday the 16 to Friday = the 18th. The beginning of the week shows on Monday and Tuesday = (14th, 15th) will be prerecorded and done partly remotely from the = Slope....we hope!

Arctic Power will spear head the logistics of this trip but we are = also expecting the following groups to be helping out as well: North = Slope Borough, RDC, Alaska Chamber, The Alliance, possibly BP???please = please, NANA, DrVen, CH2MHill, Village of Kaktovik . More are = expected to join in as the word is put out.

At the moment we are planning to deal with ANWR for a day, Alaskan = oil and gas for a day, mining for a day, Natives for a day, Alaskan energy = in general for a day. This is not set in stone and due to the early = stages of planning I expect everything to be subject to changes as = different groups want their message aired.

We would really like the Governor to participate as the key guest on = the show for an extended live interview. She can call in or be = present as is convenient. I have also asked Senator = Murkowski and will be putting the same to Young and Stevens. The = Mayors of Kaktovik, Barrow and possibly Kotzebue and Anchorge will be = formally asked.

We are working to tie into Rush Limbaugh on one of the days but that = is uncertain at the moment.

At any rate I think it will be good press for us and help with the = cause. Liddy broadcasts to about 500 stations nationwide daily and = so its pretty good size audience.

all the best,

Adrian

Adr= ian Herrera

Arc= tic Power

425= 8th Street NW Suite 540

Was= hington DC 20004

202= -248-4468 tel

202= -248-6123 fax

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 10:49 AM
To: Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Kelly; Russell T (GOV); Balash; Joseph R (GOV); Ruaro; Randall P (GOV); Colberg; Talis J (LAW); Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Frank Bailey; Irwin; Tom E (DNR); Rutherford; Marty K (DNR); Galvin; Patrick S (DOR); Kreitzer; Annette E (DOA)
Cc: Leighow; Sharon W (GOV); Leschper; Beth (GOV); Mason; Janice L (GOV); Anders; Bruce F (DNR)
Subject: Holy Moly

Hang on to your hats. We got the machine after us now! Sean's filing at noon - DY is one angry bear.

Talis, may I eat those doughnuts that you've been saving for Sean? Your ploy may have worked...

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

Unknown

From: John Katz [jwkatz@ALASKADC.org]

Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 12:33 PM

To: Palin; Sarah (GOV sponsored)

Cc: Leschper; Beth (GOV); Rehfeld; Karen J (GOV); Nizich; Michael A (GOV); Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Persily; Larry A (GOV); Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Leighow; Sharon W (GOV)

Subject: Earmarks Senator Stevens' clarification - CONFIDENTIAL

Senator Stevens asked me to let you know that his comments in yesterday's ADN are not of recent vintage but reflect an interview that he gave over two weeks ago, well before his decision to post all earmarks and the meeting I had with him.

This message was conveyed by the Senator's press secretary, who also said that the Senator wonders why ADN saved his comments for such a long time before publishing them. Implicit in the message was Senator Stevens concern and discontent about how his prior words were used.

Just wanted you to be aware of this exchange.

Please note that my email address has changed. My new email address is jwkatz@alaskadc.org. Thank you .

Unknown

From: Eric A. Olson [eolson@gci.net]
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 10:36 AM
To: Palin; Sarah H (GOV)
Cc: Crome; Cora J (GOV)
Subject: Thank You

Dear Governor Palin-

Just wanted to send you a quick note and thank you for the appointment to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council.

It is most definitely an honor, and if the Secretary of Commerce approves the nomination, I look forward to working with your administration on the fisheries issues that are so important to our state.

Again thank you so much,
Eric Olson

Unknown

From: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored) [governor@alaska.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 9:48 AM
To: Leighow; Sharon W (GOV)
Cc: Mason; Janice L (GOV)
Subject: FW: Other

-----Original Message-----

From: WebMail@gov.state.ak.us [mailto:WebMail@gov.state.ak.us]

Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 4:15 AM

To: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)

Subject: Other

Web mail from: Mr. Dan Owen

address: 934 Bramblegate Rd Hope Mills NC 28348

MESSAGE:

I've heard it suggested that you would make a great running mate for John McCain, and I tend to agree. Is the any chance at all that this could happen? If not, how about getting into the mix four years from now? I believe you have what it takes to be a great candidate.

danielfowen@aol.com

Unknown

From: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored) [governor@alaska.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 11:06 AM
To: SOA All employees
Subject: Putting Alaska First-March 2008

If this newsletter does not display correctly, you can view it online here >>>

Governor Sarah Palin announced she and her husband are expecting their fifth child.

"Todd and I are five times blessed and couldn't be happier," Governor Palin said. "We look forward to welcoming our new addition in May."

READ 2008 Poster

VISIT NEA ONLINE
Governor Sarah Palin goes to the dogs — to encourage young people to read.

President's Challenge

Got 30 minutes? Get fit this spring – and help Alaska win national recognition.

SUSAN BUTCHER DAY

Governor Sarah Palin honored the late musher Susan Butcher during a ceremonial bill signing just prior to the start of the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race in Anchorage. House Bill 37, sponsored by Representative David Guttenberg, establishes the first Saturday of March as Susan Butcher Day.

"No one exemplifies the spirit of Iditarod more than Susan Butcher," Governor Palin said. "She was a great role model for so many Alaskans, including me. I greatly admire her perseverance, dedication and competitiveness."

Butcher, a four-time winner of the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race, died in 2006. She will be honored each year on the first Saturday of March, the traditional opening day of the race that she dominated during a five-year stretch from 1986 to 1990.

Governor Palin was joined at the Mar. 1 ceremony by Butcher's husband Dave Monson and daughters Tekla and Chisana.

VIEW PHOTO

CLICK TO LIS
Governor Palin
bill at the ceren
Iditarod.

VISIT ONLINE
Susan Butcher
www.iditarod.c

MAKE A DON
Join Susan's F
Cancers

NEW ENERGY COORDINAT

Governor Sarah Palin has named Steven Haagenson to serve as er executive director of Alaska Energy Authority. Haagenson retired as executive officer of Golden Valley Electric Association in 2007.

VIEW PHOTO

As energy coordinator, Haagei state's efforts in developing a s

"Steve is a proven leader, kno planning ability. As chair of the Energy Taskforce, he was inst development of a strategic bus electric generation, heating an

Join Governor Palin in the National President's Challenge, a six-week competition sponsored by the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports. Sign up for the Challenge, which runs from March 20 through May 15, at www.presidentschallenge.org.

What's the prize? Better health – physical activity makes you feel and look better. And you'll help shine the spotlight on Alaska as governors with the highest percentage of participating residents will be recognized for supporting healthy lifestyles.

"Participating in this challenge is free and easy," Governor Palin said. "It's only 30 minutes of activity a day. You can walk, run, ski, or even bicycle your way to the goal. About 100 different activities count."

The rules of the challenge are simple:

- The challenge starts March 20, but sign up through April 3.
- Adults must be active for at least 30 minutes during five days of each of the six weeks in the challenge, and report their activity on www.presidentschallenge.org.
- Children 6 through 17 need to complete 60 minutes of activity five days a week.
- Sign up as an individual or with a group.

Recent state surveys showed that more than 60 percent of Alaska adults are overweight or obese and more than 27 percent of high school students are overweight or at risk of becoming overweight – costing upwards of $200 million in direct medical costs, not including indirect costs such as lost productivity at work.

Federal Rebates

IRS Returns Needed for Federal Rebates

Starting in May, 2008, the United States Treasury will begin sending out economic stimulus payments (rebates) of $300-$600 to eligible persons across the U.S. For some parents, there is an additional payment of $300 for each eligible child under 17.

However, people must file an income tax return in order to receive the payment.

Some Alaska citizens do not have a federal tax filing requirement, but are nonetheless eligible for the payment. These citizens will need to file a 2007 federal income tax return to become eligible.

Those who don't normally need to file can look to Free File – Economic Stimulus Payment, available at IRS.gov, to make filing an easy process. Several Free File software providers are making their products available for the simplified filing of a tax return.

In most cases, those who are required to file a federal tax return will not have to do anything extra; just file a 2007 federal tax return as usual.

Low to moderate income taxpayers,

CLICK TO LISTEN
Governor Palin has named Steven Haagenson to serve as energy coordinator and executive director of Alaska Energy Authority.

VISIT AEA ONLINE
Alaska Energy Authority at www.akenergyauthority.org

Governor Palin said. "His skills will be invaluable as we work toward a statewide strategic plan that will meet the unique challenges of the Railbelt, the Interior and Southeast Alaska and help us achieve our goal of affordable and reliable energy for Alaskans."

A registered engineer, Haagenson earned his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering and a master's degree in engineering management, both from the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

ALASKA - YUKON SIGN ACCORD

Governor Sarah Palin and Yukon Territory Premier Dennis Fentie recently renewed the 2003 Alaska-Yukon Intergovernmental Accord.

"This accord provides a framework for the governments of Alaska and Yukon to continue working cooperatively on tourism, transportation, and trade and commerce initiatives," Governor Palin said. "We have also included climate change, wildlife management, economic development and infrastructure in the accord as additional key areas of opportunity."

Yukon and Alaska have maintained and renewed a joint intergovernmental accord for well over a decade, and successes arising from the accord include joint Shakwak research projects, the Chisana caribou recovery project and joint highway enforcement initiatives.

"Through the accord, we are continuing our work to build strong, viable communities and a solid trade relationship, as we are poised to enter an unprecedented period of responsible resource development in the north on both sides of the border," Premier Fentie said.

VIEW PHOTO

VISIT YUKON ONLINE
Premier Dennis Fentie at www.gov.yk.ca/

Fentie was accompanied by Economic Development Minister Jim Kenyon during the Feb. 29 Anchorage trip. Other topics of discussion during the meeting included the Alaska Gasline Inducement Act, the Alaska Highway Gas Pipeline, climate change impacts on infrastructure and the U.S. Homeland Security Rule Interpretation for Alaskan Cruise Ships.

Fentie and Palin last met in June 2007 in Whitehorse, where they discussed a variety of topics, including economic development, the environment and the accord renewal.

10 QUESTIONS

elderly taxpayers and veterans can receive free tax assistance.

For more about eligibility requirements, visit the Economic Stimulus Payment Information Center for information. Generally, people must have a valid Social Security number, have at least $3,000 in qualified income, and not be a dependent or eligible to be a dependent on someone else's return in order to qualify.

Online Drivers Test

A driver's practice test is now available online for Alaska's potential road warriors.

The test is accessible by visiting www.dot.alaska.gov/highwaysafety and clicking "Online Driver Test" on the right side of the page.

The practice exam consists of 15 questions, similar to what driver's license applicants can expect when taking the actual exams at DMV locations.

"Passing the practice test in no way ensures participants will pass the actual test necessary to obtain an Alaska driver's license," said Cindy Cashen, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Highway Safety Office Administrator. "It's our intention to have the site prepare applicants for the actual exam and become safe and knowledgeable, licensed drivers."

The test is a joint effort by the Alaska DOT&PF, the Alaska Division of Motor Vehicles, the Alaska Highway Safety Office and the Alaska Injury Prevention Center.

Above & Beyond Citizen Honors

North Pole resident represents Alaska

Tom Burgess

The Congressional Medal of Honor Society has announced the names of 51 finalists for its inaugural Above & Beyond Citizen Honors – one for each of the 50 states and Washington, D.C.

Tom Burgess of North Pole is Alaska's nominee, for going above and beyond with his courageous rescue of tourists on a burning bus. While working on the Parks Highway as a truck driver, Burgess came upon a terrible accident between an Alaskan tour bus and a small pick-up truck. The first person on the scene,

John Katz, Director

Washington D.C. Office of the Governor

Q: Will you tell us about yourself?
After graduating from law school, I worked for Congressman Howard Pollock and then for Senator Ted Stevens before moving to Alaska in 1971. In 1972, I was appointed counsel to the Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission for Alaska, which was established by the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

I have worked for the State of Alaska in various capacities for 29 years. In early 1979, Governor Hammond appointed me as his Special Counsel to represent Alaska's interest during Congressional consideration of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, which was enacted in December, 1980. The Governor later asked me to serve as Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources, where I remained until January, 1983.

Since then, I have served six Governors as Director of State-Federal Relations and Special Counsel to the Governor in Washington, DC. In 1994, I received an honorary degree from the University of Alaska, Anchorage and have been commended twice by the Alaska Legislature.

I appreciate the privilege of representing State interests in D.C. and of working on a wide variety of interesting and challenging issues. I also enjoy the opportunity to work with capable and dedicated people within the State administration and in the many Alaska groups and organizations that do business in D.C.

Q: What do you miss most about Alaska?
I am often homesick and say that D.C. is habitable as long as I never think of it as home. What I miss most is the opportunity to interact in person with my friends and colleagues in Alaska and the ability to experience quiet and solitude without traveling many miles to do so.

Q: When was Alaska's D.C. office created?
Alaska's office originally was established by Governor Bill Egan in the early 1970s. The responsibilities of the office have changed over time in relation to State interests and the wishes of the incumbent Governor.

Currently, the principal functions of the office are to identify and monitor issues which arise in Congress and federal agencies in D.C., analyze and help formulate State policy on these issues, and advocate policy in appropriate federal forums.

Q: What's unique about the D.C. office?
Some 36 states and territories have established offices in D.C. The functions of these offices vary widely, depending upon gubernatorial mandates, issues and budgets.

The uniqueness of this office results from the issues we work on. Alaska is still a young state with a complex and evolving relationship to the federal government, a large federal land mass, a major military presence, and numerous federal programs designed to benefit Alaska Natives and other citizens.

Hence, we deal with a number of issues that other states resolved decades ago or that are unique to us for reasons of geography or resource potential. Two good examples are Alaska's efforts to commercialize North Slope natural gas and the possible designation of polar bears under the Endangered Species Act.

Q: What are some things you tell Alaskans visiting D.C.?
Every month, we meet with representatives of local governments, interest groups and individual Alaskans. Usually, they come here for a specific purpose, such as appropriations requests, and we discuss the merits of these proposals and how they might be received by Congress or the federal agencies.

Often, we will take the opportunity to discuss policies of the Palin administration that might be of interest. And, some folks want to know how to get to the closest shopping malls and museums.

Burgess acted quickly and, disregarding his own safety, rescued many of the 25 trapped people. Burgess' brave actions that day resulted in numerous lives being saved.

Three of the 51 finalists will be chosen as 2008 Above & Beyond Citizen Honorees and these remarkable citizens will be honored and celebrated during a ceremony to be held March 25, Medal of Honor Day, in Washington, D.C.

"Above & Beyond" is the first time all 107 living Medal of Honor recipients have banded together to create a national platform to promote and honor "Service before Self."

For more information, visit www.aboveandbeyond365.com and www.cmohs.org.

The News in Photos

President Bush addresses the National Governors Association in the State Dining Room of the White House in Washington, Monday, Feb. 25, 2008. From left are: American Samoa Governor Togiola T.A. Tulafono; Governor Palin; Alabama Governor Bob Riley; Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty; Health and Human Services Secretary Mike Leavitt. (AP Photo/Charles Dharapak)

Mike Webber, a 47-year-old Native Alaskan artist and fisherman, stands by the "shame pole" he carved in memory of the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill, Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2008, following a news conference at the National Press Club in Washington, one day before a class-action lawsuit, Exxon v. Baker, is argued in the Supreme Court. At right is Governor Palin. (AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

Q: What are some of the big issues that you are dealing with?
The D.C. office works on the full spectrum of federal issues with which the State is concerned. At any given time, between 100 and 120 issues are active. About 60 percent of this workload involves legislation in Congress, and the remainder concerns matters pending before federal agencies and administrative tribunals.

The office spends much of its time on Alaska-specific natural resource and environmental matters. The remainder, among other issues, is devoted to health, jobs and families, education, transportation, appropriations and international affairs.

Q: How do you work with Alaska's Congressional delegation?
The Governor's D.C. office is the primary contact with the Congressional delegation. This entails meetings, phone calls and emails virtually every day with the delegation or staff.

Often, we explain administration positions on federal issues and seek consensus with the Congressional delegation. We frequently work together in developing strategy and advocating Alaska's interests. The office also responds to numerous requests for factual information on particular issues.

Q: Earmarks have been in the news lately, will you explain how earmarks work?
The term "earmark" means different things to different people. We use this term to connote a sum of money for a specific project or program that is added to an appropriations bill by a member of Congress, often to benefit that member's constituents.

This year, President Bush and the Congressional leadership have said that the total dollar amount and number of earmarks must be reduced significantly. Recognizing the Constitutional authority of Congress to formulate the federal budget, Governor Palin has responded to this direction by reducing the total number of State earmark requests from 54 last year to 31 and from $550 million to less than $200 million.

Q: What questions do you get the most about Alaska?
This office is oriented toward public policy. So, most of the questions we get relate to policy issues pending in Congress or the various federal agencies.

At the moment, we are receiving a lot of inquires concerning energy issues, such as ANWR, the gas pipeline, and clean energy; the possible listing of polar bears under the ESA; climate change; appropriations; and fish and wildlife concerns. We also receive numerous questions from people in the lower 48 states about the Permanent Fund, what it is like to live in Alaska, and summer travel.

Q: What are the most common impressions of Alaska?
For many Americans, Alaska is a mysterious and intriguing place. They know that we possess vast quantities of oil, gas, hardrock minerals and other natural resources that we are ready and willing to provide to the rest of the country. These same people also perceive Alaska as a state with vast wilderness and bountiful fish and wildlife that should be protected.

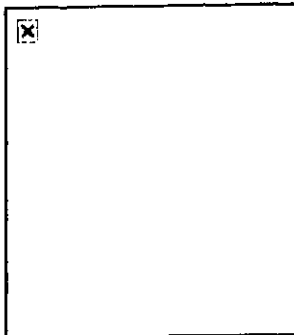
The polls I've seen show that a majority of Americans trust us to strike the right balance between responsible development and environmental protection. In addition, they want to know more about our State and what our people think and do.

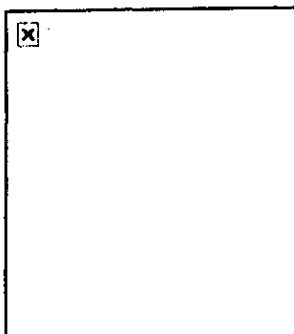
AGIA PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Alaska Departments of Natural Resources (DNR) and Revenue (DOR) received more than 300 public comments on the TransCanada Alaska Company LLC application under the Alaska Gasline Inducement Act during the 60-day public comment period that began on Jan. 5.

More than 100 of the comments arrived within the two-days prior to the Thursday, March 6 deadline. DNR staff are assembling, tabulating and formatting the electronic comments, and plan to make the comments available to the public as quickly as possible, and no later than March 14.

WATCH ONLINE VIDEO

VISIT AGIA ONLINE
www.gov.state.ak.us/agia

The comments will be made available online at the state's AGIA website. Electronic copies will also be available on request. For more information contact DNR at 907-269-8400.

Governor Palin presented information about Alaska's gas pipeline to the Hoover Institution Board, which is the Stanford University-based public policy research center, on Feb. 26, 2008, in Washington, D.C. Photo credit to Goodman/Van Riper Photography.

Governor Palin reads to students in the Gastineau School Head Start class in mid-February.

March
is National Women's
History Month

Women's History Month
Nationwide, March is Women's History Month. Alaska has its own rich heritage of women who made a difference, including Elizabeth Peratrovich who demanded equal treatment for all Alaska citizens, Susan Butcher whose four victories in the Iditarod made her a symbol of self-reliance (see related article in this newsletter), and Hilary Lindh who is a five-time U.S. National Champion and the 1992 Olympic silver medalist in downhill skiing.

VISIT WOMEN IN HISTORY PAGES ONLINE

- Governor Palin's Proclamation
- Women in Alaska
- Famous Alaskans
- Women's History Month Test Your Knowledge
- Women in Alaska's History
- National Women's History Project

Until next time,

Sarah

Governor Sarah Palin

Unknown

From: Balash, Joseph R (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=JRBALASH]
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 7:20 PM
To: 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'
Subject: Re:

I heard today that she might be a candidate...

----- Original Message -----

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>

To: Balash, Joseph R (GOV)

Sent: Fri Mar 14 19:21:18 2008

Subject: Re:

???

------Original Message------

From: Joe Balash

To: Governor Sarah Palin

Sent: Mar 14, 2008 7:14 PM

Subject:

Linda Menard?

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 5:54 PM
To: Anders; Bruce F (DNR); Mason; Janice L (GOV); Irwin; Tom E (DNR)
Subject: Re: WAIT- ANCSA meeting

I'm in Anchorage on Monday if that's better for them. The closer to plane time on Monday, the better.

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "Anders, Bruce F (DNR)" <bruce.anders@alaska.gov>

Date: Fri, 14 Mar 2008 17:50:46

To:"Mason, Janice L (GOV)" <janice.mason@alaska.gov>, gov.sarah@yahoo.com,"Irwin, Tom E (DNR)" <tom.irwin@alaska.gov>

Subject: WAIT- ANCSA meeting

Just spoke with Chair of CEO board, Sheri Buretta. She said Tuesday WAS best, but we waited too long, too crunched for them to arrange travel/schedules. She said they now prefer first week of April. No hard feelings, she understood this was a busy week, etc. Anyway, please let me know when that week we could do it, in Juneau.

Thanks,

Bruce

----- Original Message -----

From: Anders, Bruce F (DNR)

To: Mason, Janice L (GOV); 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com' <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>; Irwin, Tom E (DNR)

Sent: Fri Mar 14 17:35:48 2008

Subject: ANCSA meeting

Hi Janice,

Just spoke with the Governor, and she is fine with (in fact desires) a meeting next week. Tuesday is still best for Tom and me, and for the CEOs I have spoken with. Please let me know time ASAP so I can let the CEOs make their travel plans. Thanks!

Unknown

From: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=SWLEIGHOW]
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 5:30 PM
To: 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'
Subject: Re: McAllister

Sounds like we missed quite a show!

----- Original Message -----

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>

To: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)

Sent: Fri Mar 14 17:22:18 2008

Subject: McAllister

Do me a favor- give McAllister a hard time for this situation: while he's covering that boring ol' budget stuff in Juneau? He missed the fireworks around Southcentral today!

And I'll call Lay re: budget.

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 5:30 PM
To: Mason; Janice L (GOV)
Cc: Anders; Bruce F (DNR); Rutherford; Marty K (DNR); Irwin; Tom E (DNR)
Subject: Native corp

Leaders will meet me in Juneau next week. Bruce will set this up w you. Thanks.

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 1:19 PM
To: Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Kelly; Russell T (GOV); Rehfeld; Karen J (GOV)
Cc: Leighow; Sharon W (GOV)
Subject: Re: Wesley Loy Interview request

I fear they're going to bleed more out of us in "agreements", beyond the $40,ooo in discretionary. That's generous enough and gives them more control than I believe the public is comfortable with, due to their recent spending habits. I don't wanr to go beyond that generous offer of $40mil.

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "Tibbles, Michael A (GOV)" <mike.tibbles@alaska.gov>

Date: Fri, 14 Mar 2008 12:50:36

To:ExternalEmailgsp <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>,"Kelly, Russell T (GOV)" <russ.kelly@alaska.gov>,"Rehfeld, Karen J (GOV)" <karen.rehfeld@alaska.gov>

Cc:"Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)" <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>

Subject: RE: Wesley Loy Interview request

The Senate just passed the municipal assistance bill and they voted to concur with the PERS/TRS bill. We currently have the education bill and the municipal assistance and the PERS/TRS bills are on their way. All but a concurrence vote by the House, the Legislature has completed their work on the three legged stool.

The House and Senate just started their press conference to discuss the three items. You will find it interesting that Harris started off by saying that they are only open to discuss and take questions on these three things. He said other issues (supplemental, vetoes, etc.) would need to be taken up at a different time. Lyman Hoffman is selling the passage of the three bills as a real cooperative effort between the House and Senate.

The House's next action on the vetoed projects is still uncertain. I met with Harris again later yesterday and he said that he thinks a little more clarification regarding the approach on overall spending could be helpful. Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Harris is working on putting numbers to our proposal. Karen and I are looking at that as well. I asked Harris for a copy of his spreadsheets and he said they could probably get us something later today.

We will keep working on some numbers so we are prepared to discuss with legislators what overall level of spending is acceptable. Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Mike

-----Original Message-----

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com [mailto:gov.sarah@yahoo.com]

Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 12:32 PM

To: Tibbles, Michael A (GOV); Kelly, Russell T (GOV); Rehfeld, Karen J (GOV)

Cc: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)

Subject: Fw: Wesley Loy Interview request

Before I talk to him, is there anything new? I don't have any budget paperwork in front of me- but I do want to call Loy (Sharon- what's his #?), so feel free to email any new/additional/reminder points we're trying to relay.

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)" <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>

Date: Fri, 14 Mar 2008 11:26:20

To:gov.sarah@yahoo.com

Subject: Wesley Loy Interview request

Governor - I know this weekend is probably packed, but if you have 10 minutes, Wesley would love a call.

From: Loy, Wesley [mailto:wloy@adn.com]

Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 10:44 AM

To: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)

Subject: Interview request

Hi Sharon:

I'd like 10 minutes or so with Gov. Palin to talk about the state budget situation.

I'm writing a story for our Sunday newspaper that will attempt to place in broad context the positions of the governor and the Legislature on budgeting this year, particularly with respect to capital spending.

I'd like to ask Gov. Palin about her fundamental goals for state spending, and whether she believes we're headed toward a defining moment between herself and lawmakers.

I expect this will be a prominent story.

Ideally, I'd like to do this interview today or this evening, though I realize the governor has a full schedule. A Saturday interview would work.

My contact numbers are below.

Thank you and Gov. Palin, Sharon!

Wesley

Wesley Loy

Reporter

Anchorage Daily News

(907) 586-1531 (Juneau office)

(907) 952-3966 (cell)

wloy@adn.com <mailto:wloy@adn.com>

Unknown

From: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored) [governor@alaska.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 1:16 PM
To: jeubank99615@gmail.com
Subject: RE: Economic_Development

Thank you for writing to Alaska Governor Sarah Palin. The concerns, opinions, and/or information you have sent are important and valuable to the Governor. Although she is unable to respond to each and every email herself, your message has been received and is being reviewed by the appropriate staff person in this office who can best address your need, suggestion, or comment.

-----Original Message-----

From: WebMail@gov.state.ak.us [mailto:WebMail@gov.state.ak.us]

Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 1:52 PM

To: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)

Subject: Economic_Development

Web mail from: Ms. Jennifer Eubank

address: 3289 Balika Ln Kodiak AK 99615-7053

907-350-0599

MESSAGE:

Jennifer Eubank

3289 Balika

Kodiak, AK 99615-7053

March 14, 2008

The Honorable Sarah Palin

Governor of Alaska

PO Box 110001

Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Dear Governor Palin:

Dear Governor Palin: Thank you for your support for the Alaska Housing Trust. Including $10 million for the Housing Trust in your State capital budget is an important step towards ensuring homes for all Alaskans, especially low-income families, those who experience mental illness, addictions, and other disabilities.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Eubank

907-350-0599

This message has been verified by CapwizXC as authentic and sent by this individual. Authentication ID: [s9443ZYA]

jeubank99615@gmail.com

Unknown

From: Steve Lantz [srlantz@psea.net]
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 12:42 PM
To: Parnell; Sean R (GOV)
Cc: Kreitzer; Annette E (DOA); Palin; Sarah H (GOV); Troopers
Subject: [Fwd: Note to Lt. Governor]

Honorable Lt. Gov. Parnell,

I read with great interest the Anchorage Daily News which reports you will challenge Don Young. Congratulations.

Lt. Gov. I still await a response to my email dated nearly three weeks ago. I await response on your commitment to the safety of Alaska Citizens. Your response is of even more importance to me now that I will be faced with voting or not voting for you yet again as a representative of Alaska at the national level.

I question what the Palin Parnell leadership has done for the individual citizen of Alaska and what you can offer us at the national level. Cost of living continues to sky rocket while Comm. Kreitzer is quoted in the paper saying that a "4-3-3 is a significant increase" for the supervisors union. Frankly it is a joke and insult. I'm ashamed they ratified the contract.

Lt. Gov. your commissioner continually fails to negotiate in good faith with the Public Safety Employees Association. Your Dept. of Public Safety needed wage and benefit increases comparable to the 27% the VPSO program is getting yet has returned to the table time and time again with a reduction in their original request. The Public Safety Employees Association was originally asking for double digit increases in pay and benefits. The Association has now returned to the table with an offer of 6.5% this year yet your administration under the guidance of Comm. Kreitzer stand fast at 5%, unwilling to budge on 1.5%, after we have budged to the tune of double digits.

Please tell me your safety, that of your families, and that of every Alaskan are worth 1.5%. Incidentally Gov., Lt. Gov, and Commissioner

Kreitzer 6.5% as requested by PSEA does nothing to make up for the years of falling behind state employees endured. It fails to bring us even close to that of our competition for recruitment and retention yet we have negotiated, compromised, and sacrificed only to find ourselves faced with arbitration.

Time is running out for Alaska Citizens. Their safety is at stake and this administration continues to do nothing.

I look forward to a response from each of you on this matter,

Sincerely,

Steve Lantz

Alaska Citizen

Registered Republican Voter

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 12:34 PM
To: Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Kelly; Russell T (GOV); Rehfeld; Karen J (GOV)
Cc: Leighow; Sharon W (GOV)
Subject: Re: Wesley Loy Interview request

I see his # on the bottom. No need to send it.

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com

Date: Fri, 14 Mar 2008 20:32:11

To:"Mike Tibbles" <mike.tibbles@alaska.gov>,"Russ Kelly" <russ.kelly@alaska.gov>,"Karen Rehfeld" <karen.rehfeld@alaska.gov>

Cc:"Sharon Leighow" <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>

Subject: Fw: Wesley Loy Interview request

Before I talk to him, is there anything new? I don't have any budget paperwork in front of me- but I do want to call Loy (Sharon- what's his #?), so feel free to email any new/additional/reminder points we're trying to relay.

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)" <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>

Date: Fri, 14 Mar 2008 11:26:20

To:gov.sarah@yahoo.com

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I expect this will be a prominent story.

Ideally, I'd like to do this interview today or this evening, though I realize the governor has a full schedule. A Saturday interview would work.

My contact numbers are below.

Thank you and Gov. Palin, Sharon!

Wesley

Wesley Loy

Reporter

Anchorage Daily News

(907) 586-1531 (Juneau office)

(907) 952-3966 (cell)

wloy@adn.com <mailto:wloy@adn.com>

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 12:32 PM
To: Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Kelly; Russell T (GOV); Rehfeld; Karen J (GOV)
Cc: Leighow; Sharon W (GOV)
Subject: Fw: Wesley Loy Interview request

Importance: High

Before I talk to him, is there anything new? I don't have any budget paperwork in front of me- but I do want to call Loy (Sharon- what's his #?), so feel free to email any new/additional/reminder points we're trying to relay.

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

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To:gov.sarah@yahoo.com

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Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 10:44 AM

To: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)

Subject: Interview request

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Wesley

Wesley Loy

Reporter

Anchorage Daily News

(907) 586-1531 (Juneau office)

(907) 952-3966 (cell)

wloy@adn.com <mailto:wloy@adn.com>

Unknown

From: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored) [governor@alaska.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 11:57 AM
To: Putman; Jo Chambers (DOA)
Subject: RE: Education

Thank you for writing to Alaska Governor Sarah Palin. The concerns, opinions, and/or information you have sent are important and valuable to the Governor. Although she is unable to respond to each and every email herself, your message has been received and is being reviewed by the appropriate staff person in this office who can best address your need, suggestion, or comment.

-----Original Message-----

From: WebMail@gov.state.ak.us [mailto:WebMail@gov.state.ak.us]

Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 12:19 PM

To: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)

Subject: Education

Web mail from: Ms. Jo Putman

address: P. O. box 1608 Nome AK 99762

443-2281 work

MESSAGE:

Thank you so much for your support of Head Start, especially your increase and funds for a study for pre-school for all children. I actually had a very vivid dream about talking to you about Head Start, it all was like it actually happened. Keep up the good work!!

Jo Putman

jo.putman@alaska.gov

Unknown

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) [govpalin@alaska.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 11:15 AM
To: Mason; Janice L (GOV); 'juanita@alpinechiro.net'
Subject: Re: NCAI Executive Director Jacqueline Johnson Honored at Annual Indian Women's Luncheon

Awesome Sista'! Please tell Jackie congrats from the whole state of AK.

----- Original Message -----

From: Mason, Janice L (GOV)

To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored); 'Todd' <fek9wnr@yahoo.com>

Sent: Fri Mar 14 11:03:09 2008

Subject: FW: NCAI Executive Director Jacqueline Johnson Honored at Annual Indian Women's Luncheon

Wow - What an honor. Janice

Subject: NCAI Executive Director Jacqueline Johnson Honored at Annual Indian Women's Luncheon

WOW Sister!!

National Congress of American Indians <http://www.magnetmail.net/images/template/NCAI/email_banner.jpg>

HOME <http://www.mmsend1.com/ls.cfm?r=133280479&sid=3582791&m=446242

&u=NCAI&s=http://www.ncai.org> | EVENTS <http://www.mmsend1.com/ls.cfm?r=133280479&sid=
3582792&m=446242&u=NCAI&s=http://198.104.130.237/ncai/index.jsp?pg=8> | ISSUES
<http://www.mmsend1.com/ls.cfm?r=133280479&sid=3582793&m=446242
&u=NCAI&s=http://198.104.130.237/ncai/index.jsp?pg=3> | RESOLUTIONS
<http://www.mmsend1.com/ls.cfm?r=133280479&sid=3582794&m=446242
&u=NCAI&s=http://198.104.130.237/ncai/index.jsp?pg=5> | RESEARCH CENTER
<http://www.mmsend1.com/ls.cfm?r=133280479&sid=3582795&m=446242
&u=NCAI&s=http://198.104.130.237/ncai/index.jsp?pg=11> | TRIBAL DIRECTORY
<http://www.mmsend1.com/ls.cfm?r=133280479&sid=3582796&m=446242
&u=NCAI&s=http://198.104.130.237/ncai/index.jsp?pg=10> | GET INVOLVED
<http://www.mmsend1.com/ls.cfm?r=133280479&sid=3582797&m=446242
&u=NCAI&s=http://198.104.130.237/ncai/index.jsp?pg=12>

1301 Connecticut Ave, NW

Suite 200

Washington, DC 20036

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Adam McMullin at 202-422-8416 or amcmullin@ncai.org

April Hale at 505-417-3071 or ahale@ncai.org

NCAI Executive Director Jacqueline Johnson Honored at Annual Indian Women's Luncheon

WASHINGTON—March 5, 2008—National Congress of American Indians Executive Director Jacqueline Johnson was honored at the 13th Annual National Indian Women's "Supporting Each Other Luncheon" during NCAI's Executive Council Winter Session in Washington, D.C.

Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) spoke of the many accomplishments of Johnson, who is of the Raven/Sockeye Clan of the Tlingit Tribe of Alaska. "Jackie wears many hats, juggles many balls, as we all do, but what matters is if you can catch them at the end of the day, and Jackie does," Sen. Murkowski said.

A banquet room filled with Native women, stood in ovation as Johnson walked to the podium to accept a plaque in recognition of her leadership, a Pendleton blanket, and gifts from others in attendance. Also in attendance were Native men showing their support.

Johnson first thanked her daughter, Jamie Gomez, for her strength and the NCAI staff for their support, calling them family. She then thanked the influential women in her life, her mother and her late grandmother.

"I want to thank my grandmother whom I gather my strength from and who made me a resilient Tlingit woman," Johnson said. "I look over this audience of strong women today and I can see the same strength that my grandmother possessed."

Also honored at the luncheon was Gay Kingman-Wapato, the current Executive Director of the Great Plains Tribal Chairman's Association and a former executive director of NCAI.

"Today we honor Indian women who have made an impact not only on the local, regional and national levels, but also on the international levels," said luncheon host Julie Johnson.

Jacqueline Johnson has been the NCAI executive director since 2001. She is also the former chairperson of the National American Indian Housing Council and former Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Native American Programs of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. She serves on the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, the Sealaska Corporation and the Native American Advisory Council for Boys and Girls of America committees.

###

Founded in 1944, the National Congress of American Indians is the oldest, largest and most representative American Indian and Alaska Native organization in the country. NCAI advocates on behalf tribal governments, promoting strong tribal-federal government-to-government policies, and promoting a better understanding among the general public regarding American Indian and Alaska Native governments, people and rights.

1301 Connecticut Avenue NW • Suite 200 • Washington, DC 20036 (202) 466-7767 • (202) 466-7797 fax • ncai@ncai.org <mailto:ncai@ncai.org>

<http://www.mmsend1.com/spacer.cfm?tracking_id=1791247724_NCAI>

Never miss a thing. Make Yahoo your homepage. <http://us.rd.yahoo.com/evt=51438/
*http:/www.yahoo.com/r/hs>

Unknown

From: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored) [governor@alaska.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 11:10 AM
To: forsure@gci.net
Subject: RE: Other

Thank you for writing to Alaska Governor Sarah Palin. The concerns, opinions, and/or information you have sent are important and valuable to the Governor. Although she is unable to respond to each and every email herself, your message has been received and is being reviewed by the appropriate staff person in this office who can best address your need, suggestion, or comment.

-----Original Message-----

From: WebMail@gov.state.ak.us [mailto:WebMail@gov.state.ak.us]

Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 11:16 AM

To: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)

Subject: Other

Web mail from: Ms. Susan Spriggs

address: P. O. Box 71381 Fairbanks AK 99707

(907) 328-1957

MESSAGE:

As an Alaskan resident for 42 years, a mother of five sons, and a state employee, I would like to extend my strongest kudos to Governor Palin. You make me proud to be a mother, an Alaskan, and a state employee. Congratulations on your new addition. Your positive attitude and always friendly smile are such a welcome sight! Thank you Sarah!

forsure@gci.net

Unknown

From: Tibbles, Michael A (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=MATIBBLES]

Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 4:43 PM

To: Sarah Palin

Subject: EVOS Trust Funds: Habitat Acquisitions and "Brick & Mortar" Projects

Governor,

Denby, Talis and Larry Hartig serve as state members on the EVOS trustee council. The council will be meeting soon to discuss the direction of EVOS and use of the remaining funds. There has been an ongoing debate about whether EVOS money should be used for habitat protection and whether the organization should continue to incur operating expenses in perpetuity. Our commissioners Privileged or Personal Materia at their next meeting two items:

1) The purchase of parcels of land from private and native entities. Examples include 6,350 acres on afognak, several smaller parcels in Kenai, Soldotna and Valdez.
2) The use of fund for capital projects including a Fish and Game research building in Kodiak and an outreach center in Cordova.

I can provide a complete list of all the projects if you would like. Privileged or Personal Material Redacted Privileged or Personal Material R Privileged or Personal Material Redacted They requested I check with you to see if you have any concerns.

Thank you.

Mike

From: Colberg, Talis J (LAW)
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2008 11:52 AM
To: Tibbles, Michael A (GOV)
Subject: FW: EVOS Trust Funds: Habitat Acquisitions and "Brick & Mortar" Projects

Dear Mr. Tibbles, I would echo Larry's request for guidance. Can we proceed with big projects, land acquisitions? The two day meetings begin Saturdqay and go through Sunday and the three of us are going to be in an odd situation of being asked for our views if we aren't sure we have authority to express them. Talis

---

From: Hartig, Lawrence L (DEC)
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2008 10:58 AM
To: Tibbles, Michael A (GOV); Balash, Joseph R (GOV)
Cc: Lloyd, Denby S (DFG); Colberg, Talis J (LAW); Tillery, Craig J (LAW)
Subject: EVOS Trust Funds: Habitat Acquisitions and "Brick & Mortar" Projects

Mike and Joe,

I am just checking in to see if the Governor's office has any questions or guidance to the state EVOS trustees regarding what we discussed last Thursday – whether there are any policy considerations we need to have in mind in going forward with consideration of using EVOS trust funds for habitat acquisitions (North Afognak parcels and a handful of smaller key parcels on the Kenai River, etc.) and building projects (partial funding of research facilities in proposed Kodiak ADF&G building, partial funding for proposed Cordova public building, and possible small DEC storm water control projects)?

Thanks for any input you can provide at this time.

Larry

Unknown

From: John Katz [jwkatz@ALASKADC.org]
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 6:27 AM
To: Mike Tibbles; Russ Kelly; Sharon Leighow; gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Cc: Beth Leschper; Karen Rehfeld; Larry Persily
Subject: Re: Channel 2 - budget showdown?

I noticed that there's a short but very good editorial in today's ADN about our earmark policy.

I believe that Matt decided not to publish my Op-Ed piece on the grounds that the subject matter has received enough coverage by them. But, I'd like to think that he felt a little bit guilty and then decided to write his own editorial, which is probably a better result anyway.

Perhaps, another newspaper which has not devoted as much coverage to earmarks would be willing to publish the Op-Ed. I think it's a reasonable summary of the current situation in DC and does contain some new information on transportation earmarks, which precipitated the problem to begin with.

Earmarks

Pork with a sense of proportion

Sen. Ted Stevens complains that Gov. Palin's anti-earmark rhetoric is hurting Alaska's cause in Congress. It's harder for him to get federal funding for Alaska projects, he says, when critics can say your own state doesn't like earmarks.

Maybe so. But the Palin administration hasn't said all earmarks are evil. It has merely scaled back the state's list of funding requests, using some sensible criteria, like whether the project involves any federal responsibility and has strong public support.

The governor recognizes that legitimate federal funding requests may come from other sources, like local governments and the university.

In short, when it comes to federal pork, Gov. Palin is talking about reduced portions, not going without. That's the reality these days, thanks to past earmarking excesses. Cutting the list of earmark requests and using tighter criteria to screen them should make it easier to defend the Alaska projects that do get federal funding.

Please note that my email address has changed. My new email address is jwkatz@alaskadc.org. Thank you .

>>> On 3/13/2008 at 6:43 PM, in message <1465118257-1205448091-cardhu_decombobulator_blackberry.rim.net-1501837569-@bxe014.bisx.prod.on.blackberry>, <gov.sarah@yahoo.com> wrote:

Any committment from adn to run Katz op-ed on earmarks?
Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----
From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com

Date: Wed, 12 Mar 2008 19:55:59
To:"Sharon Leighow" <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>,"Russ Kelly" <russ.kelly@alaska.gov>,"Mike Tibbles" <mike.tibbles@alaska.gov>
Cc:"Karen Rehfeld" <karen.rehfeld@alaska.gov>
Subject: Re: Channel 2 - budget showdown?

"I believe it's inappropriate to stuff a supplemental budget with a package of last year's vetoed capital projects, especially when the adminstration has not even seen the growing list of legislator's projects they've apparently now added to the supplemental budget. Supplemental budgets traditionally, and appropriately, fund end-of-year shortfalls due to unexpected costs, usually in operations of public services provided by government. The capital budget should be developed in a comprehensive manner."
Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----
From: "Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)" <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>

Date: Wed, 12 Mar 2008 11:19:30
To:"Kelly, Russell T (GOV)" <russ.kelly@alaska.gov>, gov.sarah@yahoo.com,"Tibbles, Michael A (GOV)" <mike.tibbles@alaska.gov>
Subject: Channel 2 - budget showdown?

Rep. Meyer told Bill McAllister that the budget has / will be moved out with the capital projects IN. BM wants comment from the administration. Please advise.

Sharon Leighow
Deputy Press Secretary
Deputy Communications Director

(907) 269-7450 Anchorage
(907) 465-4031 Juneau
(907) 240-7943 cell

Unknown

From: Tibbles, Michael A (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=MATIBBLES]

Sent: Friday, March 14, 2008 5:24 PM

To: Sarah Palin

Subject: unemployment insurance

Governor,

There is a hearing tomorrow on the unemployment insurance bill. The bill proposes to raise the average weekly unemployment benefit from $248 to $370. Alaska's unemployment insurance rates rank 48th lowest in the nation. The new amount if enacted would place Alaska in the middle of the pack. There have been numerous attempts over the years to adjust the rates but the unions and the business community have not been able to reach an agreement.

The bill has picked up more momentum this year. It may be due to the recent announcement about the employer rates being reduced and the lowest in many years. The current version of the bill would increase the amount of the employer paid insurance from $470 per employee per year in 2008 to $495 per employee per year in 2014. The net increase for employers would be $25 over 6 years. The 2014 amount at $495 is still lower than the $584 amount last year. The employee costs will remain flat for two years but will result in a $34 increase over 6 years.

The state chamber and the associated general contractors support the bill. They believe higher unemployment insurance will help with the high cost of living and result in a stronger workforce by maintaining workers to fill seasonal jobs. Commissioner Bishop Privileged or Personal Mo date has been neutral in his comments to legislative committees. Privileged or Personal Material Redacted
Privileged or Personal Material Redacted Privileged or Personal Material Redacted
Do you have any direction, I can pass back to Click and his office?

Thank you.

Mike